



City of San Diego  
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# Building Newsletter 10-9

## Exterior Stairways

Interpretations of State and Local Building Codes  
1994 Uniform Building Code: Chapter 10  
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### I. Definition

An exterior stairway is a stairway entirely open on two adjacent sides, except for required columns and open-type handrails. The adjoining open areas shall be either yards, courts or public ways; the other two sides may be enclosed by the exterior walls of the building.

### II. Permissible Roofing

A roof large enough to cover only the stairway (in plan) may be constructed over the exterior stairway, except that eaves projecting a maximum of two feet will be permitted.